

MINUTES
Judicial Education Committee
March 16, 2007

Committee Members Present: Barbara Harcourt, Chair; Mark Bailey, Diane Boswell, Barbara Collins, Jane Spencer Craney, Darrin Dolehanty, Bob Freese, John Rader, Jack Tandy. **Staff Present:** Cathy Springer and Vicki Davis.

1. **Minutes from the January Meeting.** The January 07 minutes were approved as submitted.
2. **Review of January Orientation Program.**
 - a. The General Jurisdiction Orientation Program for New Judicial Officers was held January 23-26th at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Staff reported that 32 new judicial officers attended the four-day program.
 - b. John Rader, Bill Hughes, Fran Gull, Bob Freese and Barbara Harcourt (as available) served as program observers.
 - c. The committee reviewed and discussed the session evaluation tally. Overall, the sessions were very well received. The committee discussed the ethics session and ways to improve the delivery of relevant education on ethics and professional responsibility to new judges. There was some agreement that a “panel approach” using scenarios might not be the best method to present the material.
 - d. The committee also discussed the need for more “down” time or time away from the conference site during the intense orientation program. Several members noted that they personally enjoyed attending the State of the Judiciary address during their orientation and just getting out of the hotel meeting room. Bob Freese suggested giving the new judges a “free” afternoon and planning an “evening” session to compensate for time lost.
3. **Review of February Juvenile Judges Orientation Program.**
 - a. The Orientation for New Juvenile Court Judicial Officers was held on February 7 in one of the conference rooms of the Indiana Judicial Center.
 - b. The committee reviewed the evaluation tally.
 - c. Darrin Dolehanty who served as faculty for the program and John Rader who attended as a program observer noted the day long orientation program was well planned and executed.
4. **Spring Judicial College Program**

Staff distributed a copy of the conference brochure to committee members and noted three programs repeat during the conference. Staff distributed the current registration numbers for each program. There seems to be a nice distribution among all of the programs.
5. **Annual Meeting of the Judicial Conference, September 19-21, Fort Wayne.**
 - a. Staff distributed a list of session ideas for the September program. Several of the ideas were highlighted as definite possibilities including: making findings of fact/conclusions of law; neurobiology of addiction; access to court records; criminal “mental health” commitments; civil commitments/placements; neurobiology of mental illness; confidentiality of mental health records; cultural awareness; and how to manage time in

- a technology-laden world.
- b. Staff distributed an email from Professor Hannah Buxbaum, Faculty Advisor to the Western European Studies Department, Indiana University, regarding the possibility of doing a program for judges on issues of transatlantic interest such as enforcement of foreign judgments, international accords on child custody/divorce that impact dual-national couples, and cross-border contracts for the sale of goods. Chief Justice Shepard suggested Professor Buxbaum contact the committee. The committee discussed whether such a program would be appropriate for September, the one day Winter program or as a Spring Judicial College track. Staff will look into this farther.
 - c. Staff distributed an email from Justice Sullivan on session/speaker recommendations. Justice Sullivan recommended: Former Judge Charles Schudson, Milwaukee (law and culture, law and literature, among others); Professor Charles McCurdy, University of Virginia (law and history); and two judges from New Orleans (Judge Madeleine Landrieu and Judge Terri Love) who could talk about courts recovering from disasters.
 - d. The committee discussed possible plenary keynote speakers. Chief Justice Roberts was suggested as was Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. Malcolm Gladwell, the author of *Blink: The Power of Thinking without Thinking*, was another suggestion. Judge Craney noted she has a contact for a speaker on stress management.
 - e. Staff informed the committee that Court TV has made an inquiry into the possibility of attending the September Conference. At the request of the Supreme Court, David Remondini responded to the inquiry from Court TV. A copy of the letter to Jessica Su, Court TV, was distributed.
 - f. Social Events at the Annual Meeting. Staff reported there would be an informal dinner on Wednesday, September 19th and the Fort Wayne Bar Association is working with Tom Felts to coordinate a reception or like event on Thursday, September 20th.
6. **Discussion on Topics for the Winter Program.** The committee briefly talked about program ideas for the December conference. Possible topics include: substance abuse and the impact on the courts; living/working in stressful times and dealing with change; mental health issues; and international law program paired with cultural issues or immigration issues in criminal courts.
7. **Review of 2006 Curriculum Grid.** Staff distributed the curriculum grid for review and suggested the committee might wish to discuss our education goals at the next meeting.
8. **Additional Items for Discussion.** Judge Harcourt asked the committee to give some thought to their personal "education committee" wish list for the next meeting.
9. **The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 18, 2007, 1:00 - 3:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,
Vicki Davis, Assistant Education Director